Application Serial No. 10/678,687 Amendment After Allowance dated December 12, 2006

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Notice of Allowability mailed September 20, 2006. In that Notice of Allowability, the Examiner lifted the restriction of April 17, 2006 and allowed Claims 1-21.

In this amendment after allowance, which is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.312, Applicant has canceled Claims 1-8 and 18-21, which were previously withdrawn in response to the Examiner's restriction requirement. The remaining Claims 9-17, which were previously elected in response to the Examiner's restriction requirement, have not been amended in this paper. No new matter has been added.

Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 9-17 are still in condition for allowance. If any issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney for Applicant at (312) 245-5385 to expedite the prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Mircea A. Tipesou

Registration Nov. 53,690 Attorney for Applicant

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE P.O. BOX 10395 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610 (312) 321-4200